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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **YOSHIMURA, et al.**

Serial No.: **10/044,986**

Filed: **January 15, 2002**

Group Art Unit: **1775**

Examiner: **SPERTY**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 3531

FOR: **PROCESS FOR FORMING METAL LAYER ON SURFACE OF RESIN MOLDED PRODUCT**

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL REJECTION

BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 21, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **April 25, 2003**, Applicants request favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application. Claims 9 and 10 are pending.

Claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Riccio et al. (newly cited). The Examiner argues that Riccio et al. teaches a resin molded product (resin layer) in which a thermal spray of molten metal particles had been applied to penetrate the resin. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 9 and 10 each require the limitation that the "tip ends of particles of the fine metal powder are impaled and forced into the resin molded surface." This limitation results in structural characteristics which are distinct from Riccio et al. In other words, the product of Riccio et al. does not meet the structural characteristics required by the claims, i.e., wherein tip ends of particles of the fine metal particles are impaled and forced into the resin molded surface.

The Examiner highlights the disclosure at column 3, lines 29-34 as meeting this feature. However, the description of Riccio et al. does not support the Examiner's position. Although Riccio et al. teaches that the uncured resin filled with the micron-size spheres, fillers or beads allow more metal particles to stay at or near the surface and not be engulfed by the wet uncured resin, this disclosure does not teach or suggest that the tip ends of the particles of the fine metal powder are impaled and forced into the resin molded surface. In other words, Riccio et al. merely teaches that not as many of its metal particles are engulfed in the uncured resin. The method described by Riccio et al. does not cause a phenomenon that the tip ends of the fine metal powder are impaled and forced into the surface of the resin molded product. Accordingly, Riccio et al. fails to anticipate claims 9 and 10.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the claimed invention distinguishes over the cited art and defines patentable subject matter. Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by Applicants would be desirable to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned attorney.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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